AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An oligonucleotide comprising:

5'TCG$X_1X_2N_1$3'

wherein X_1 is any nucleotide, X_2 is A, T, or C when X_1 is C or A, X_2 is A or G when X_1 is T, X_2 is any nucleotide when X_1 is G, N_1 is 2-95 nucleotides, wherein the CG dinucleotide is an unmethylated CG dinucleotide, wherein 5' designates the 5' end of the oligonucleotide and 3' designates the 3' end of the oligonucleotide, and wherein N_1 does not include an unmethylated CG motif, wherein the oligonucleotide is 13-100 nucleotides in length.

2-5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide includes at least 1 modified internucleotide linkage.

7. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide includes at least 50% modified internucleotide linkage.

8. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein all internucleotide linkages of the oligonucleotide are modified.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Original) The oligonucleotide of claim 6, wherein the stabilized internucleotide linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

11-12. (Canceled).

13. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N_1 is N_2N_3 and wherein N_2 is 8-94 nucleotides and N_3 is 2-5 pyrimidines.

14. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein N_3 is TTTTT.

15. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein N_3 is TT.

16. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein N_2 is 8-40 nucleotides.

17. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N_1 is at least 50% pyrimidine.

18. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1 , wherein N_1 is at least 80% pyrimidine.

19. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N_1 is free of Poly-A and Poly-G sequences.

20. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N_1 is TN_2 and wherein N_2 is 8-94 nucleotides.

21-22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide has a 3'-3' linkage with one or two accessible 5' ends.

24. (Original) The oligonucleotide of claim 23, wherein the oligonucleotide has two accessible 5' ends, each of which are 5'TCG.

25-90. (Canceled).